

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for automatically naming hosts in a distributed data processing system, the method comprising:
 - receiving a unique identifier (UID) at a cluster controller from each of a plurality of hosts in communication with the cluster controller, while at least one of the plurality of hosts is executing in a pre boot execution environment;
 - in response to receiving the UIDs, causing the plurality of hosts to produce ready signals;
 - receiving user input from a first host among the plurality of hosts, the user input comprising notification of the insertion of a disk within the first host;
 - in response to receiving the user input from a first host, associating a first host name with the UID for the first host;
 - after associating the first host name with the UID for the first host, causing the first host to produce a completion signal;
 - receiving user input from a second host among the plurality of hosts; and
 - repeating the operations of receiving replies from hosts, associating host names with UIDs, and causing hosts to produce completion signals, until each of the plurality of hosts has been named, such that the user input dictates the order in which host names are assigned to the multiple hosts.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the operation of associating a first host name with the UID for the first host comprises:

in response to receiving the user input from the first host, transmitting data to the first host; and

after transmitting the data to the first host, receiving a reply from the first host, such that the first host name is associated with the UID for the first host in further response to the reply.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

providing the cluster controller with a host-name index, wherein:

the operation of transmitting data to the first host comprises transmitting the host-name index to the first host;

the operation of receiving a reply from the first host comprises receiving an incremented host-name index from the first host; and

the operation of associating a host name with the UID for the first host comprises using the host-name index to generate the host name to be associated with the UID for the first host.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

providing the cluster controller with a host-name index and a host-name root;
and

providing the multiple hosts with auto-naming logic, wherein:

the auto-naming logic causes the multiple hosts to transmit the UIDs to the cluster controller;

the auto-naming logic receives the index in the data from the cluster controller, increments the index, and transmits the incremented index to the cluster controller in the reply; and

the operation of associating a host name with the UID for the first host comprises using the host-name root and the host-name index to generate the host name to be associated with the UID for the first host.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the operation of causing the multiple hosts to produce ready signals comprises activating light emitting diodes (LEDs) on the multiple hosts to indicate that the multiple hosts are ready to be named.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the operation of receiving user input from the first host comprises detecting that a blank disk has been inserted into a disk drive of the first host.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the operation of causing the first host to produce a completion signal comprises deactivating a light emitting diode (LED) on the first host.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the operation of causing the first host to produce a completion signal comprises producing an audible signal to indicate that the first host has been named.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A program product for automatically naming hosts in a distributed data processing system, the program product **embodied in tangible computer readable media and** comprising:

computer instructions enabling a controller in said distributed data processing system to:

receive a unique identifier (UID) from a first host in communication with a cluster controller, at least one of the plurality of hosts not having a fully functional operating system present thereon;

in response to receiving the UID, cause the first host to produce a ready signal;

receive user input from the first host, the user input;

in response to receiving the user input from the first host, associate a first host name with the UID for the first host; and

after associating the first host name with the UID for the first host, cause the first host to produce a completion signal; and

a computer-usable medium encoding the computer instructions.

10. (Previously Presented) The program product of Claim 9, wherein:
the computer instructions respond to the user input from the first host by transmitting data to the first host;
the computer instructions receive a reply from the first host; and
the computer instructions associate the first host name with the UID for the first host in further response to the reply.
11. (Original) The program product of Claim 10, wherein the operations performed by the computer instructions further comprise:
recognizing a host-name index; and
transmitting the host-name index to the first host with the data, wherein:
the operation of receiving a reply from the first host comprises receiving an incremented host-name index from the first host; and
the operation of associating a host name with the UID for the first host comprises using the host-name index to generate the host name to be associated with the UID for the first host.
12. (Previously Presented) The program product of Claim 9, wherein the computer instructions cause the first host to produce a ready signal by activating a light emitting diode (LED) each of the respective plurality of hosts to indicate that the multiple hosts are ready to be named.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Original) The program product of Claim 9, wherein the computer instructions cause the first host to produce a completion signal by deactivating a light emitting diode (LED) on the first host.

15. (Original) The program product of Claim 9, wherein the computer instructions cause the first host to produce a completion signal by producing an audible signal to indicate that the first host has been named.

16. **(Currently Amended)** A data processing system for automatically naming hosts in a distributed data processing system, the data processing system comprising:

a network interface in communication with a plurality of hosts, a processor in communication with the network interface, tangible data storage in communication with the processor, and computer instructions stored in the tangible data storage, wherein, when the computer instructions are executed by the processor ~~processing resources~~, the computer instructions perform operations comprising:

receiving a unique identifier (UID) from each of a plurality of the plurality of hosts;

in response to receiving the UIDs, causing the plurality of hosts to produce ready signals;

receiving user input from a first host among the multiple hosts, the user input comprising a signal indicative of an insertion of a disk within a disk drive of the first host;

in response to receiving the user input from the first host, associating a first host name with the UID for the first host without regard to data, if any, stored on the disk;

after associating the first host name with the UID for the first host, causing the first host to produce a completion signal;

receiving user input from a second host among the plurality of hosts; and

repeating the operations of receiving replies from hosts, associating host names with UIDs, and causing hosts to produce completion signals, until each of the plurality of hosts has been named, such that the user input dictates the order in which host names are assigned to the plurality of hosts.

17. (Original) The data processing system of Claim 16, wherein the operation of associating a first host name with the UID for the first host comprises:

transmitting data to the first host; and
receiving a reply from the first host, wherein the computer instructions associate the first host name with the UID for the first host in further response to the reply.

18. (Original) The data processing system of Claim 17, wherein the operations performed by the computer instructions further comprise

recognizing a host-name index; and
transmitting the host-name index to the first host with the data, wherein:
the operation of receiving a reply from the first host comprises receiving an incremented host-name index from the first host; and
the operation of associating a host name with the UID for the first host comprises using the host-name index to generate the host name to be associated with the UID for the first host.

19. (Previously Presented) The data processing system of Claim 16, wherein the computer instructions cause the plurality of hosts to each produce a ready signal by activating a light emitting diode (LED) on each of the plurality of hosts to indicate that each of the plurality of hosts is ready to be named.

20. (Previously Presented) The data processing system of Claim 16, wherein the user input comprises signals indicating that a blank disk has been inserted into a disk drive of the first host.

21. (Original) The data processing system of Claim 16, wherein the computer instructions cause the first host to produce a completion signal by deactivating a light emitting diode (LED) on the first host.

22. (Original) The program product of claim 9, wherein said user input from the first host comprises a signal indicative of insertion of a disk into a disk drive of the system and where said associating a first host name with the UID for the first host comprises associating said first host name without regard to data, if any, stored on the disk.